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# PLAINS FORESTER

FOREST SERVICE



LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

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## ARE YOU MEN OR MICE???

- By A. L. Ford, South Dakota.

Two and five-eighths miles of standard 10-row shelterbelts planted by one standard 14-man planting crew in an eight-hour day, is the South Dakota planting speed record that we challenge any other state to authentically and truthfully match. This feat was accomplished on May 17 by a picked Brookings Subdistrict planting crew in northern Moody County. This record was made on fairly tight soil (not sand). Match it or beat it if you can.

This crew was trained by Subdistrict Officer Cal Oamek and was in charge of Crew Foreman Ray Stewart. Cal, knowing that he had a number of "crack" planters on his various crews, decided to go out after a record. He picked his top men, assembled them into one crew, let them work together several days and then let them loose on this record day's work. Every man knew in advance that the crew was out for this record, and did they move? Ferrell and I watched the "race" for a couple of hours in the morning. The tree tender was about the busiest man on the crew. In keeping these "speed merchants" supplied with trees he was busier than a one-handed painter with the itch.

Two 15-minute rest periods were taken by the crew, one in midmorning and one in midafternoon, so that the actual planting time was only  $7\frac{1}{2}$  hours. The crew planted 16,475 trees in  $7\frac{1}{2}$  hours' planting time, or an average of 180 trees per man-hour or 3 trees per man-minute. The quality of the planting was unusually high considering the speed that was maintained.

The area picked for this record performance was a concentration of plantings on the Farm Security Administration's Demonstration Farms in Moody County. All of these belts being concentrated, no time was lost in moving from belt to belt.

It was a sight for sore eyes to watch this crew operate. Most of the men were stripped above the waist down to their undershirts and resembled the contestants in the National Corn Husking contests. One young stalwart, the fastest man of the lot, knocked about five trees per minute while I timed him over a three-minute period, and he did a darned high quality job at that. One half-mile belt which was planted during the day had a particularly fine job of subsoiling and this crew polished off this half mile in exactly 1 hour and 5

minutes. If any State can match that time for a half mile, our hats are off to you.

When I asked Cal Oamek if he was going to drive this crew in going out after the record, his reply was: "No, that won't be necessary with that outfit. I'm going to take them down there, show them the job and lay-out and simply tell them, 'There she is, let's see what you can do to her.'" And boy, did they do it? If that outfit had been planting on sand, the men would have planted way over into the next state that day.

I think it unsafe to drop this authentic yarn without throwing out a note of warning to Operation. This is a record and not an average long-time performance. A picked crew was assembled, trained and "keyed up" for the try for a record. I mention this because I'm a little fearful that if I did not, Operation might figure its estimates in new planting at two miles per crew-day in the ever-present urge to reduce unit costs. We still believe that within reason quality should have priority over production.

#### TORNADO SWEEPS CHICKASHA NURSERY

Buildings were destroyed, fields of growing seedlings damaged, and one man was badly hurt on the afternoon of May 21 when a tornado struck the Chickasha (Oklahoma) Nursery of the Prairie States Forestry Project.

The injured man is L. W. Neeley, Assistant Nurseryman, whose back was hurt when he was pinned down by a falling timber. The building in which he and the other men at the nursery had sought refuge collapsed. A dog belonging to Nurseryman Sam Byars was killed by the falling timbers. Two men, Joseph Standridge of Chickasha and a negro workman, were unable to reach shelter but miraculously escaped serious injury.

Although the damage caused by the tornado was spread over a sizeable area, the storm struck with apparently its greatest force in the general vicinity of the Chickasha Nursery. Eye-witness accounts say that the storm clouds seemed to extend to the ground along a front 200 to 300 yards wide. Hailstones weighed after the storm were said to have been as heavy as four ounces.

Indicative of the force of the wind is the report of Richard Brown, a farmer, that he saw a cow blown out of a lot on the Finis Clark farm, on which the Chickasha Nursery is located, carried through the air for several hundred yards and then dropped in a field.

Nurseryman Byars feels fortunate in one respect, however. There were only 9 or 10 men at work with Neeley on the day the storm struck, whereas ordinarily from 50 to 75 men would have been employed. Had the full force of men been at work, it is possible that more injuries would have occurred.

At the time the tornado struck Chickasha, Byars and D. S. Olson, Chief of Timber Management, were at the Purcell Nursery about 35 miles east of Chickasha for an inspection trip. Olson declares the storm at Purcell was the worst he has ever experienced. He says that he began to get worried when the floor of the Nursery building where he and Byars sought shelter began to jiggle. The storm at Purcell was less severe than at Chickasha, however.

A few days after the tornado, the Chickasha Nursery experienced a severe hailstorm which, it is reported, did greater damage to growing seedlings than was caused by the tornado.

Resowing of fields where necessary was begun at the Nursery immediately after the tornado and hail storm, and tents have been set up at the sites of the buildings which were destroyed. Assistant Nurseryman Neeley is reported recovering rapidly and is expected to return to work before the end of June.

#### MOVEABLE FILES FOR VOUCHER CLERKS

For some time the Kansas unit has been trying to solve the problem of keeping the "Accounts ready to voucher" and "Accounts pending additional information" in a convenient manner for the person handling vouchers, at the same time complying with the instructions on filing.

It was finally decided to order two regular letter-sized steel filing units with low base and top. The units are provided with catches at the rear to hold the unit drawer sections, base, and top together whenever one drawer is fully drawn out. Ball-bearing casters were installed on the three-inch-high base. Since the drawers are self-locking when shut, the entire unit, which is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches higher than an ordinary desk top, can be rolled alongside the desk of the person handling the vouchers.

The upper drawer provides sufficient space for the obligations files and current local contracts, while the lower drawer is used for filing current Tps. contracts. Both drawers are standard letter-size, 24 inches deep, of the full suspension type when pulled out. When one drawer is loaded to capacity and extended it will not tip forward, because all sections are locked together. The entire unit, except the casters, was obtained on Tps. contract from the Globe-Wernicke Company at a total cost of less than \$30 for 48 inches of moveable filing space.

- Victor C. Rosenwald, Kansas.

#### OFTENTIMES, SEEING IS BELIEVING

How an Oklahoma cooperater was evangelized by a grape and berry hoe, which was used in a demonstration on his farm, is told in a conversation reported by Subdistrict Officer Benjamin Gilbert, who is stationed at Woodward. Said the cooperater to Gilbert:

"When I saw the boys bringing that contraption up to the place, I took a look at it and at first decided to tell them to get going. But after thinking it over, I decided to humor them because they thought they had something there and would waste half a day with my tractor tinkering with it, and then I'd run them off at noon because I knew the damm thing wouldn't work.

"Instead, at noon I called up 10 or 12 of my neighbors who had shelterbelts and asked them to come over that afternoon. About a half-dozen came. We decided that this implement is about the slickest thing we have seen to eliminate hand-hoeing. The only mistake I made was in not having the boys leave it overnight so I could clean out all of my fence rows, too."

- James W. Kyle, Oklahoma.

## COWBOYS OUT-PLANT TREE PLANTERS

One day this spring I drove up to the corner of a Nebraska shelterbelt with a truck load of planting stock, shovels, trays, and a conifer planting crew and was met by a group of cowboys who had been assembled for a replanting job. This was on a large cattle ranch where previous cultivation had been indifferent, and by way of atonement and to insure early replanting the ranch manager had agreed to furnish labor to replant his  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles of shelterbelt if the Forest Service could furnish planting stock and equipment, and teach the cowboys how to plant trees. I readily agreed to do this.

Each cowboy was given a shovel and a tray full of trees and was eager to be off down his row. I showed the 'punchers' the approved planting technique but that was too slow for most of them, so off they went. After the first 20 rods, however, they changed over to the Forest Service standard methods of planting one by one and by noon had settled into the collar and were planting like veterans. The conifer crew of picked Forest Service planters was left hopelessly in the rear in the first half-hour and was not able to catch up at any time.

If the Regional Office experts can figure out a way to plant trees from horseback, our tree planting labor problems are solved. Two cowboys ought to equal a regular planting crew, since a cowboy dismounted is practically helpless.

- J. R. Stevenson, Nebraska.

## MORE THAN HALF OUR TREES ATTRACT BIRDS

Considerably more than 50 per cent of the trees planted in shelterbelts are definitely attractive to birds, according to a recent publication of the Biological Survey on "Ornamental Woody Plants Attractive to Birds" by Myer Katz of the Food Habits Division of Wildlife Research (Wildlife Leaflet B. S. - 156, March 1940). This might be an even stronger point for selling shelterbelts than most of us now consider it to be.

"Planting shrubs, trees and vines that offer an abundance of food and cover throughout the year will do more to attract birds . . . than will any other effort in their behalf," says Katz. He emphasizes the desirability of a variety of trees in the plantings made for attracting birds to provide a variety of foods as well as variation in the time of blossoming and ripening of the seed. He also states: "Evergreens are almost indispensable in attracting birds in winter and are essential for a well-balanced planting program" and "In general, mass planting is of greater value than individual plantings in attracting and protecting birds." Although not designed primarily for this purpose, shelterbelts are apparently eminently adapted as attractions for bird life.

Since, as the title implies, the paper includes only ornamentals, some species which we plant, the seed of which might be desirable bird food, may have been omitted by Katz. Nevertheless, the following list attracts from 20 to 84 species of birds to feed (the paper is based entirely on Biological Survey records on stomach and crop examinations):

Hackberry (*Celtis* sp.), Hawthorne (*Crataegus* sp.), Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* sp.), Juniper (*Juniperus* sp.), Mulberry (*Morus* sp.), Oak (*Quercus* sp.),

Pine (Pinus sp.), Plums, Apricots, Cherries (Prunus sp.), Serviceberry (Amelanchier sp.), Spruce (Picea sp.), Sumach (Rhus sp.), and Willow (Salix sp.). Of these, the Plum group, Pines, Oaks and Junipers attract the largest variety of species in the order named. From 9 to 20 species are attracted by the Elms (Ulmus sp.) and Poplars (Populus sp.). Russian Olives and Maples are also mentioned as attractive to a number of species.

- Donald P. Duncan, Kansas.

#### TEXANS VISIT EXPERIMENT STATION

Junior Administrative Assistant Vogel, Senior Stenographer Alexander, Mrs. Lane and I, from the Texas State Office, and Shelterbelt Assistant and Mrs. Campbell of Vernon attended a meeting of agricultural workers from several counties on May 13 at the State College Experiment Station at Iowa Park. We were greeted on arrival by Mrs. Brooks, the superintendent's wife, who showed us around the yard. The many fine trees, nearly all planted within the last 11 years, and flowers on the spacious lawn around the buildings of the experimental farm impressed us greatly.

A caravan of about 30 cars, headed by one carrying Mr. Brooks and Mr. Pickett and a loud speaker, made an inspection tour of the farm. Explanations of the work were given at each experimental plot.

This farm is all under irrigation, and the water applied to the various grain plots is being measured to ascertain the amount needed to produce the best crop. Other experiments deal with crop rotation and the effects on the soil of different rotations. The women were especially interested in the home garden experimental plots, where a large variety of vegetables was growing.

Extensive experiments with fruit trees, especially peach varieties, are said to have shown the Dr. Burton peach to be the most dependable in that section. The crops of Dr. Burtons have been fairly good in 9 of the last 11 years, we were told. Other experiments deal with pruning fruit trees to extend the longevity of orchards. Berry and pecan plots were also exhibited.

Back at headquarters again we saw the work in the small greenhouse, when an experiment in soilless gardening is under way. Radishes, carrots, beans and other vegetables had been planted in a box of pure sand. Each day they are watered with a solution which contains the necessary plant foods. Carrots were almost matured in 37 days.

At 7 o'clock in the evening we lined up, 100 strong, for a fine feed of fried chicken and all that goes with it. A short meeting was held after the supper. Everyone agreed that the tour was successful and we hopefully anticipate being invited again.

- W. E. Lane, Texas.

New York and Pennsylvania combined lead the United States in the use of hardwoods for distillation purposes. Utilization of 358,274 cords of hardwoods in 1929, or 44 per cent of the nation's total for that year, is reported in the two States.

- Clipped

### PERSECUTED RACES USUALLY HAVE GREAT VITALITY

Rabbits, together with opossums, are the most ancient of the living known mammals on our Continent, dating back to Eocene times some 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 years ago. This is one of the incidental findings in the great exploration of ancient life on this America which has centered around Dr. William B. Scott, Emeritus Professor of Geology at Princeton, who in our times has greatly extended science's knowledge of the animals of the past, both those whose descendants are now living and those whose lives have become extinct.--From Science News Letter, May 13, 1940.

Comment:--No wonder they are so well established and settled to their environment, and are able to elude all manner of traps and poisons. We ought to be able to outsmart a rabbit, though, even if he has 40 million years of accumulated experience.

- F. E. Cobb, North Dakota.

### HOW SHELTERBELTS STARTED IN MITCHELL COUNTY, KANSAS

At its February, 1939, meeting south of Asherville, Kansas, the Green Mound 4-H Club heard a suggestion by the community leader, Mrs. Leta Betz, that the club sponsor tree planting. The County Agent recommended that tree plantings be made in rows so that the trees could receive the benefits of cultivation. He explained briefly the shelterbelt plantings made by the Forest Service elsewhere in the State.

The following morning, C. F. Belles, father of one of the 4-H Club members, appeared at the Farm Bureau to apply for the first shelterbelt to be planted in Mitchell County, and County Agent R. W. McBurney got in touch with Forest Service officials to learn that a few plantings could be made there. Applications were received, and 10 miles of shelterbelts planted. Many more applications were received, but lateness of the season made further planting impractical.

Mitchell County is included in a new Subdistrict now. A substantial amount of planting has been done there up to the present time and indications are that there is work there for the Forest Service for some years to come.

The County Agent stated recently: "The desire to do something toward tree planting on an organized basis started a program which will bring joy to generations of the future and will be another tribute to the work of 4-H Club boys and girls."

- C. Lyman Calahan, ex-Kansas.

### WE GET INTO ANOTHER PUBLICATION

A very profitable day, May 24, was spent with Northern Pacific Railroad officials, when the local agent at Jamestown brought in the editor of the company's monthly magazine, "The Northwest." The result of this tour and an afternoon in the office giving information and showing pictures, from which selections were made, will result in an illustrated article that will appear in the magazine for July or August. This publication circulates all over the United States and is also used to answer inquiries regarding the territory through which the Northern Pacific operates.

- F. E. Cobb, North Dakota.



## 12,000 ATTEND NEBRASKA FORESTRY FIELD DAY AND PICNIC

A crowd estimated at 12 thousand to 15 thousand attended the Nebraska Forestry Field Day and Picnic held in the Neligh Shelterbelt District, Sunday, June 16. The inspection of shelterbelt plantings and attendance of the afternoon program held in Riverside Park, Neligh, exceeded all expectations.

Old Jules Sandoz, rugged pioneer and exponent of tree planting, returned to Nebraska in the personage of his daughter and biographer, Mari, who talked to the large crowd, telling them of historic progress of tree planting in Nebraska. How prairie fires burned the trees -- how wars between Indians and whites, cattlemen and sheepmen, destroyed them; -- how grasshoppers and drought discouraged planting; -- yet through it all the tree planting spirit to this day remains at high tide in Nebraska.

Miss Sandoz recalled as a little girl gathering countless cottonwood seedlings from the sandbars of the Niobrara river and how she worked helping Old Jules plant them. She told how to plant trees, as her father had often told her: "Spread the roots carefully; pack the soil tight; cultivate, cultivate, and don't let the cattle in." (And that, my friend, is good advice in any woman's language.)

Miss Sandoz, Governor Cochran, Lyle Jackson, general chairman of the committee sponsoring the Field Day, Director Roberts, Mr. Fitzwater of the Washington Office, State Director Emerson and several guests comprised a caravan that visited the oldest and largest shelterbelts in the Orchard community. We understand that Miss Sandoz and Governor Cochran (a senator to be?) were amazed at the growth of the trees and the extent of the plantings. (Casual remarks made by the driver of the Governor's car lead one to believe that there is in the Regional Office at least one very capable "fence builder".)

A special train was chartered by the town of Atkinson to take the combined Atkinson-Butte band of 125 pieces and some 300 Atkinson citizens to Neligh for the afternoon program. Other bands from Elgin, Norfolk, Pierce and Neligh paraded before the jam-packed grandstand and assisted in the program. Boy scouts and the Antelope County American Legion Post handled the large crowd admirably. The Neligh Boy Scout troupe conducted a flag-raising ceremony. Tree Day hostesses from 17 towns were introduced to the crowd. All angles were covered by photographers and the Day received immeasurable publicity. The Project, along with Mari Sandoz, rode the crest of the highest publicity waves.

Mr. Roberts and Mr. Fitzwater stated that to their knowledge this was the first time in any place that trees and tree planting were ever "celebrated" on such a grand scale and so successfully.

All in all it was a grand party and we wish more of you could have been there.

- E. Garth Champagne, Nebr.

"How is the pain in the neck?"

"Oh, he's out golfing!"

- Clipped

## HIGH SCHOOL BOY WRITES AFTER SHELTERBELT TOUR

This spring the Biology class of the Norfolk (Nebraska) High School was taken out into the field to obtain first-hand information on the Prairie States Forestry Project and also to see a shelterbelt planting crew in action. The youngsters saw plenty, but Edgar Roberts, the instructor, didn't let it rest there; instead, he asked the students to write shelterbelt papers. The following, by Frank Harnish, was sent to PLAINS FORESTER by the Nebraska State Office. While the paper does not tell much about shelterbelts, it is a good conservation yarn which says a whole lot in relatively few words. It is reproduced below:

"AND THERE SHALL COME UNTO EGYPT!

"In a day, not beyond the memory of man, the hills of the mid-west rolled sea-like to the horizon on the east, the west, the south and the north. Wave upon wave of barren, sun-parched soil lapped the rim of the steel blue, burning casque of sky.

"It was into the midst of this land that the cattle man came to graze his herds, and it was he who brought the railroad. Over the railroad routes came the farmer to homestead; the Kinraider with his land act papers clutched in a hard, gnarled fist.

"Land hungry, these men were, and they were more than glad to gain another few acres for the planting of some trees. But thanks to these soil-starved men, the 'Great American Desert' turned slowly into a fertile farm land; their acres balanced between pasture and cultivation.

"Year upon year rolled, one over the other, and the land prospered. Then, sudden as one of those twisters that swirl up from the south, someone had shot an archduke and a world was at war.

"Fields of Central Europe were sown with blood and were reaped of a harvest of men. No other crop could be grown on such soil - and men must eat.

"Mid-west United States had overnight become the granary of the world and two ears of corn, two stalks of grain and two pounds of beef or pork were made to grow where one had grown before.

"Sod that had since the ice age lain undisturbed was cut by plows and sown that the world might be safe for democracy. Back yards and hay ranches; farmer and pharmacist; all land must be used!

"The war was won and lost; but what of the soil?

"Winds had whipped over the land each summer taking from the land its vital moisture. Moisture itself was at last gone and did not come again. The priceless drops that slowly disappeared left less to return in the spring rains; finally, as the parching winds roared over the land they found no moisture holding particles of soil together. From these particles the winds made huge clouds which billowed over the country suggesting rain; but leaving behind only inches of dust piled on door steps and window ledges.

Was a fifth of the Nation doomed to return to desert? "No," came the answer from the Department of Agriculture of the Federal Government, "we will

tame the winds and water the roots of a billion acres."

"Here and there, from Canada to Texas, Government agents talked to farmers, and truck loads of men drove out to the fields just as the sun woke up, to plant a mile or so of trees. First there were only a few strips, and these miles apart, but then as time passed the numbers of these plantings grew and the groves, resembling cow sheds in shape, dotted the landscape in countless numbers.

"As each summer followed its predecessor, the trees grew and the winds were forced up and away from the ground that so thirstily drank each raindrop almost before it fell.

"Tree roots and grass roots once more bound the soil into a compact mass in which water might be retained and the land was once more full of life and the will to live."

#### 1938 LILAC IN BLOOM

The demonstration shelterbelt planted on the State Fair Grounds at Huron, South Dakota, in the spring of 1938 had a row of lilacs in bloom on May 23, 1940. This might not be anything to crow about in the "tropics" of Oklahoma and Texas, but in the "arctics" of central South Dakota we believe this is something a bit out of the ordinary.

Although this row of lilac had reached an average height of only about three feet, many had full-sized blooms. The stock was nursery-grown from seed, and it was interesting to note the great variation in color and type of bloom as the result of lilac propagated from seed. The blooms varied in color from pure white through all the varying shades of purple and lavender.

When our hundreds of miles of lilac hedge produced from seed are mature and in full bloom, this attractive variation in color bids fair to be classed as one of the things of real beauty in this locality.

- A. L. Ford, South Dakota.

#### KANSAS SHELTERBELTER JOINS THE BENEDICTS

Wedding bells rang for the Kansas unit of the Prairie States Forestry Project on Saturday evening, May 18, when Miss Lottie E. Newland of Nampa, Idaho, and Subdistrict Officer Paul E. Slabaugh were married at the First Church of the Brethren at McPherson, Kansas, according to an item in the Salina (Kansas) Journal.

The bride is the niece of Mrs. Frank Crumpacker of McPherson, and the groom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Slabaugh of Bethany Biblical Seminary, Chicago. The newlyweds went to Chicago on their wedding trip. They will make their home at Salina, which is Mr. Slabaugh's headquarters.

PLAINS FORESTER extends its greetings to the bride and congratulations to Mr. Slabaugh.

## TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TRUCK DRIVERS HELD IN NEBRASKA

It is noted in the May issue of PLAINS FORESTER that Mr. Cameron of Kansas would like to see a training school held for Project truck drivers. In this we certainly concur; in fact, we have been so interested in the idea that we held a truck drivers' school just prior to the spring planting season.

The training school was completed in two separate meetings, held about two weeks apart. At the first meeting, the new Car and Truck Handbook was thoroughly discussed by the drivers, and the officers in charge attempted to clear up all points that were in doubt. At the second meeting, the morning was devoted to a written examination consisting of 50 questions which covered the entire Handbook. The afternoon was devoted to actual driving tests and training in the use of Inspection Form 117-PSFP by actual inspection of trucks, under the supervision of a well-trained warehouseman.

The District personnel, from Subdistrict Officers to truck drivers, all felt that the meetings were very much worth while and agreed that at least one such meeting should be held at the same time each year, or more frequently if the turnover of personnel warranted it.

- L. F. Joris, Nebraska.

## HOW DO YOU HANDLE MEN?

Portions of the following item, written by Albert Fancher, are good enough to bear reproduction. Reading them should refresh our minds as to the value of cooperation, so here goes:

"Do you get things done?

"In that simple question lies the test of every man's ability as a leader or an executive. It's true, of course, in a job where we must do the work well and on time if we are to hold that position. But as we rise in the world and reach a place of influence in our business, our profession, or in social activities, it becomes more important - and much more complex.

"We have more than ourselves to consider now. There are those under us, or working for or with us. As leaders, or managers, or executives, it is up to us to see that they get their work done. As the head of a committee or group we are looked to for results, just as in business we are the ones responsible for what happens, whether it is good or otherwise.

"And so, realizing this, we ask ourselves: 'Are we getting the best results from our own efforts and from others?'

"Let's look around a bit. Perhaps we will find some ideas we have overlooked. And perhaps they may help us.

### "He Thinks He Must Drive Men

"Johnson is the head of a business. He thinks of himself as a real leader. In business he likes to play the big executive. His motto is 'Treat 'em rough and tell 'em nothing.' His employees call him a slave driver and he is always having difficulty with them. He is plagued with strikes, and his labor turnover is exceptionally high. He would like to be important socially,

but he antagonizes others when he is on a committee. As the head of a committee, he is hopeless.

"He hates to admit it, even to himself, but he is jealous of one of the men in his business. This man is head of a department, but he is more than that. He's a trouble shooter for the whole organization. He likes the men, and they like and respect him. He takes interest in their affairs, and helps them when they're in trouble.

"This man is the real leader in that business. And he's a leader in other things as well - in his church, in the organizations he belongs to. People know that when he undertakes anything he will get it done, and that he will get others to help him when that is necessary.

#### "Considers Men as Machines

"There is one significant difference between these two men, and it explains a great deal. The gruff owner thinks of others as all alike - and tries to drive them. They are names on the pay roll, not individual human beings.

"The department head thinks of them as people - all different, all with their hopes and problems, their disappointments and dreams. When there is a job to be tackled, he considers each man separately. How will this one react to it? What will that one need? How can he help or encourage so-and-so?

"In that last question is the answer to his success. He believes in encouraging others. 'Sometimes, in business,' he says, 'you have to point out a person's mistakes to him so he won't repeat them. I do this behind closed doors so that no one else can hear what I have to say to him. But when I praise a man, I always do so publicly so everybody can hear me. I like to receive credit for anything good I may do, and I figure that others feel the same way.

#### "So Easy to Show Consideration

"Perhaps that is an idea for us. Not that it is so new, but it is one of those important things it is so easy to forget to do. A few words of praise or appreciation, a note, or a phone call, is all that is needed. When we remember how good we felt when someone appreciated us, we can see what it means to others. Doing it is one mark of real leadership.

"If you want results, you've got to ride 'em, and ride 'em hard!

"All of us have heard this philosophy. It's the creed of the driver and not the leader; and it's a creed that is being rapidly out-moded.

#### "Leaders Are Not Drivers

"We do have to keep going, if we are to accomplish anything. That is certainly true of ourselves and just as true of others. We have to keep reminding, helping and encouraging others. That is our job as leaders. It is what makes us leaders.

"But we will find our responsibilities lighter and our work more of a joy if we use just a few of those ideas; if we think of people as individuals; if we take the time to praise them publicly; if we show an interest in them and their affairs; if we remember to do the things that prove our interest.

"Aren't these the things that all of us like? Don't we respond to this kind of leadership? We know we do, and others will respond the same way when you lead.

"And they'll do things for you because they like to!"

- Robert A. Dellberg, Kansas.

#### THESE MEN REALLY WANTED RABBITS

After having read the various ideas in PLAINS FORESTER on rodent control, I am induced to offer a suggestion. The method used in the Bridgeport (Nebraska) Subdistrict has proved effective, practical and profitable, and has brought about a reduction in the cost of the control of rodents as well.

Within the Subdistrict are several commercial hunters who specialize in rabbits, although they do go after other pelts also, and stop at no end in obtaining them. They not only hunt rabbits themselves, but also organize neighborhood drives and buy the dead rabbits shot by the other persons taking part. Further to increase their volume of business, they had an open offer to the public of 5 cents per rabbit delivered.

It is estimated that, through the activity of these hunters, at least 10,000 rabbits were shot in Morrill County alone during the months of January and February.

- John J. Zaylskie, Nebraska.

#### A LINE ON A COD

Here's one from the pen of Earle Ennis of the San Francisco Chronicle that you might try on your new rod:

"A fish story to end all fish stories has come down from Bellingham, Washington, with a photograph to prove it. Frank Kennedy of that city fishes off Lummi Island with a beam troller. To his surprise, the other day, he brought up a cod wearing a pair of spectacles.

"Kennedy shook his head and looked again. The cod beamed back at him like a marine professor. Examination disclosed that the spectacles rested on the cod's nose and the ear-pieces were caught in its gills.

"Knowing nobody would believe him, Kennedy brought the cod home with him as was. Whereupon - and here is the O. Henry punch to the story - Ira D. Elerding, a salesman, identified the glasses as a pair he lost while trolling for salmon last fall."

Now you tell one!

- From the "California Ranger."

FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Walt Webb, Texas State Director, sends along a couple of interesting bits of information gleaned from material he received from his Alma Mater, Michigan State College.

One item deals with some Chinese Elm trees planted as street trees at the residence of one of the professors in 1918. It became necessary during the last year to remove those trees, which had reached a 28-inch diameter at the ground line. Two fine 16-inch-wide planks have been cut from one of the butt logs, and the College officials plan to make a study of the quality of the wood from the Chinese Elms. "As a shade tree," the item concludes, "it (Chinese Elm) can not be recommended; the roots get into sewers; it is constantly shedding leaves and twigs, and is rather easily broken in ice storms; its rapid growth causes the heaving of adjacent pavements."

The second item is the reprint of a letter by Webb to the editor of Pine Needles, Michigan State College mimeographed news letter. In this letter the Texas State Director dwells upon the importance of public relations. "For the information of some potential JF who may be inclined to regard public relations as a more or less necessary evil," Webb wrote, "it may be interesting to learn that on some types of forestry work his future advancement may rest more on this one ability than on any other . . . As the work of the forester comes more closely in contact with the individual, both in conservation of human and natural resources, the importance of this activity will be enhanced. Any experience or ability which he (the forestry student) can attain and develop while in school will be extremely helpful to him in later years."

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Simple metaphors have the strongest hooks, as may be seen from the following quotation from Science News Letter, forwarded by State Director Cobb:

"One advantage of a windbreak is to conserve moisture for the field it protects - as agriculturists explain, adding that soil, like Monday's wash, dries faster in a breeze."

The Monday wash idea was first used by Ed Perry, then lifted to a Departmental news release. It's a good one, we'll admit, although we are of the opinion that Ed's first-hand acquaintance with the Monday wash is sketchy.

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Aside from the damage which was caused by tornado and hail at the Chickasha (Oklahoma) Nursery late last month, the Division of Timber Management has had enough other worries over nursery prospects during the last 30 days to keep life from becoming complacently boresome.

The worries were all caused by the persistent habit of the weather gods over the Plains of splashing heavy downpours onto relatively small areas instead of spreading the water more judiciously over the region (the water spreads as is, all right, but not in the way we mean).

As a result of a few such downpours, the nursery at Abilene, Kansas, rested under 5 or 6 inches of water for several days; the water over the

Norfolk, Nebraska, Nursery was reported even deeper, while at the time this was written the condition of the Sioux City Nursery at the junction of Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota had not been ascertained.

A distinct sigh of relief was heard when "Slim" Engstrom returned to Lincoln with the information that the stock at Abilene was far enough along that the exaggerated irrigation did no damage. At Norfolk, a small part of the nursery will have to be resown, but except for that there was no damage to growing stock.

It may be that our signals are wrong - that instead of crossing our fingers when we wish for rain, we should use a sweeping gesture to indicate that the rain should cover a large area and come more gently.

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In writing an inspection report, Fred Pierce of the Kansas State Office tells of a view of a concentration area which would warm any forester's heart. Pierce reports that from his place on a little hill in western Rice County he counted 31 shelterbelts. There are belts of various widths - 10 rows, 7 rows, 3 rows - in the area and with few exceptions there is a shelterbelt every quarter mile across the field of vision, Pierce says. The north-south belts have not been planted yet, he points out, but even so the view demonstrates a protection system on a community basis which has been uppermost in the minds of the Kansas personnel as they carry on their work with township tree committees and land use planners.

#### OKLAHOMANS MOURN DEATHS OF RELATIVES

Deaths which occurred during May and June affected personnel of the Oklahoma unit. The mother of Mrs. Claude S. Asp died at her home at Falkner, Mississippi; Mr. and Mrs. Asp were in Mississippi at the time of the death. Mrs. Fred Harris, mother of Mrs. Milton F. Olson, died May 29 at her home at Coyle, Oklahoma. Mr. Ferguson, father of John K. Ferguson, died June 2 at Oklahoma City. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Asp. Mr. and Mrs. Olson and Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson.

- A. N. Butler, Oklahoma

#### WEEK-END TRIP EXTENDED INTO ENFORCED VACATION

Margy C. Pederson of the Division of Operation is back on the job after almost a month's enforced vacation. Margy had gone to Auburn, Nebraska, in her brand-new automobile to spend a week-end with her parents. She was taken ill suddenly and soon was in the Auburn hospital where, on the following day, May 27, she submitted to an appendectomy.

#### DAUGHTER BORN TO MR. AND MRS. L. A. WILLIAMS

According to L. A. (Al) Williams of North Dakota, if a man holds four Queens and draws one card and gets another Queen, the deal must have been stacked or deuces wild. Anyway, Mr. and Mrs. Williams announce the birth of a daughter, May 30, at Jamestown, N. Dak. She is their fifth daughter.